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P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K
S E R V I C E

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

<i>Application Number</i>	09/517,018
<i>Filing Date</i>	March 2, 2000
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Hideaki OKAMURA
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	2151
<i>Examiner Name</i>	LeChi Truong
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	450100-02393

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under CFR 1.114.

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Technology Center 2100

a. Previously submitted
 i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on December 8, 2003
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed
 i. Amendment/Reply
 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. Other _____

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770.00 OP

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to
 Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

b. Check in the amount of \$1,300.00 is enclosed for the following:
 i. \$770.00 for RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 ii. \$530.00 for Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17): Three-month Extension of time fee (\$950.00) less two-month extension of time fee (\$420.00) paid on 12/08/03.
 iii. Other _____

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530.00 OP

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

02 FC:1253

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	William S. Frommer	Registration No.	25,506
Signature		Hans R. Mahr, Reg. No. 46,138 for William S. Frommer	Date 01/07/04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name (Print/Type)	Chiaki Kokka	"Express Mail" Mailing Label No.	ER 502446845 US
Signature		Date	January 7, 2004

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES and completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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